

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 25978 01 OF 02 041642Z

54

ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC 4150

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 25978

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM

SUBJECT: COCOM LIST REVIEW: IL 1746 - POLYMERS

REFS: A. STATE 240751

B. COCOM DOC. REV (74) 1746/WP1

C. COCOM DOC. REV (74) 7

SUMMARY: ON 4 NOVEMBER COCOM DISCUSSED JAPANESE PROPOSAL TO DELETE SUBITEM (A) AND US PROPOSALS FOR SUBITEMS (A) AND (D) AND ADDITION OF SUBITEMS (F) THRU (T) AS GIVEN IN REFS B AND C. DELEGATIONS, EXCEPT US AND JAPAN' COULD ACCEPT EITHER PROPOSAL ON SUBITEM (A). US PROPOSAL ON SUBITEM (D) WAS SUPPORTED BY ALL DELEGATIONS WITH UK WANTING DEFINITIONS OF CITED PARAMETERS. UK ADDITIONS RECEIVED UNUSUAL DEGREE OF SUPPORT WITH JAPANESE AND UK IN SYMPATHETIC RESERVE TO STUDY US SUBMISSION OF STRUCTURAL FORMULAS. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JAPANESE PROPOSAL TO DELETE IL 1746(A), JAPAN CITED CIVIL APPLICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE OF PRC PRODUCTION BASED ON SUMMER 1974 EXHIBIT IN OSAKA. US RESPONDED THAT ITS COUNTERPROPOSAL WOULD MEET JAPANESE CONCERN REGARDING CIVIL APPLICATIONS BUT COULD NOT ACCEPT DELETION. UK ALSO DESCRIBED SOVIET AND CHINESE CAPABILITIES, BUT, WITH FRANCE, ACCEPTED US COUNTERPROPOSAL.

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PAGE 02 OECD P 25978 01 OF 02 041642Z

ITALY WITH MAJORITY. GERMANY, CANADA AND NETHERLANDS

WERE OPENMINDED AND COULD ACCEPT EITHER JAPANESE OR US PRESENTATIONS. JAPAN RESERVED TO STUDY US COUNTER-PROPOSAL FURTHER AND, AT REQUEST OF US, WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON PRC CAPABILITIES. IN CONTEXT OF DISCUSSION, USDEL FELT FORMAL OBJECTION AT THIS STAGE WOULD BE UNHELPFUL AND THEREFORE TOOK POSITION OF UNSYMPATHETIC RESERVE ON JAPANESE PROPOSAL.

2. ON US PROPOSAL TO AMEND IL 1746(D) TO EXCLUDE CERTAIN FIBERS AND TEXTILE MATERIALS, ALL DELEGATIONS AGREED AFTER DISCUSSION OF MATERIALS REMAINING UNDER COVERAGE AND TERMINOLOGY USED IN DESCRIPTION. UK ASKED IF PARAMETERS REMOVED NOMEX BUT NOT KEVLAR. FRENCH INTERJECTED TECHNICAL COMMENTARY BEFORE US COULD REPLY, GIVING US AN UNUSUAL DEGREE OF SUPPORT. FRENCH STATED THAT NOMEX WOULD BE EXCLUDED BUT KEVLAR WOULD BE RETAINED. THEY NOTED NOMEX AS A META-TYPE AMIDE WHILE KEVLAR WAS A PARA-TYPE AMIDE. THEY NOTED ALSO THAT KEVLAR HAS A NUMBER OF MILITARY USES AMONG WHICH IS FABRICATION OF MISSILE COMPONENTS. THEY MADE POINT OF KEVLAR FIBER BEING COVERED BY IL 1763(A). (NOTE: FRENCH HAD MADE CALCULATIONS SHOWING SPECIFIC TENSILE FOR KEVLAR AS 6.35×10 EXPONENT 6 AND SPECIFIC MODULUS OF 3.10×10 EXPONENT 8. THEY RECOGNIZED KEVLAR AS PRD-49.) US THANKED FRENCH AND SUBSTANTIATED THEIR DATA. UK EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT FRENCH AND US STATEMENTS AND CITED DU PONT DIRECTION TO MAKE MAJOR USE OF KEVLAR AS TIRE CORD. UK STATED FURTHER THAT DU PONT WAS SETTING UP 50,000,000 POUNDS PER YEAR PRODUCTION PLANT TO SUPPLY TIRE CORD. US ANSWERED UK WITH RESPECT TO DU POINT PRODUCTION PLANS, AND FACT THAT PLANT WAS NOT YET OPERATING AND THAT TIRE USE WAS STILL EXPERIMENTAL. FRENCH ADDED THAT REGARDLESS OF COVERAGE UNDER 1746(D) KEVLAR WAS COVERED BY IL 1763(A) AND WAS STRATEGIC. UK ASKED FOR DEFINITION OF FIBER MODULES AND TENACITY AS THESE TERMS WERE UNFAMILIAR. US SAID THEY WOULD SUPPLY THE DEFINITIONS. UK HAD ORIGINALLY RESERVED BUT WAS CONVINCED OF VALIDITY OF US PROPOSAL BY THE DISCUSSIONS AND JOINED IN ACCEPTING.

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PAGE 03 OECD P 25978 01 OF 02 041642Z

3. US PUT FORWARD ITS PROPOSAL TO ADD FIFTEEN NEW SUBITEMS TO IL 1746. JAPAN RECOGNIZED THESE AS NEWLY DEVELOPED AND WERE CONCERNED ABOUT FUTURE CIVIL USAGE. THEY ASKED IF US WOULD CONSIDER A LIMITED VALIDITY NOTE AS A SOLUTION TO THEIR CONCERN. US AGREED TO CONSIDER APPLICABILITY OF SUCH A NOTE. JAPAN AND UK ENTERED SYMPATHETIC RESERVES TO ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY. OTHER DELEGATIONS AGREED TO US ADDITIONS PLUS THE

SUGGESTED VALIDITY NOTE. AGAIN US RECEIVED UNUSUALLY

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PAGE 01 OECD P 25978 02 OF 02 041637Z

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STRONG SUPPORT FROM FRENCH. THEY SHARED US VIEWS THAT PROPOSED SUBITEMS WERE ESSENTIALLY MILITARY IN USAGE AND COUNTERED JAPAN BY STATING THAT THE COSTS OF THESE MATERIALS WOULD LIKELY PROHIBIT CIVIL USAGE. THEY IMPLIED VALIDITY NOTES SHOULD APPLY ONLY TO THOSE SUBITEMS MOST LIKELY TO ACHIEVE CIVIL APPLICATIONS. UK WISHED TO KNOW WHAT US HAD IN MIND AND ASKED FOR STRUCTURAL REPRESENTATIONS. US SUPPLIED DELEGATIONS WITH THE STRUCTURAL FORMULAS FOR (F) THRU (T). UK ASKED ABOUT NEW SUBITEM (Q) AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO IL 1781(A). US RESPONDED THAT IT WAS THE INTENT TO COVER SOLID OR RUBBERY FORMS NOT LIQUIDS (LUBRICANTS) AS GIVEN IN IL 1781(A). UK ALSO GIVEN REFERENCES FOR STRUCTURES RELEVANT TO LADDER POLYMERS. UK ASKED FOR STRUCTURES TO BE MADE PART OF THE RECORD AS IDENTIFICATION OF WHAT THE SUBITEMS MEAN. US AGREED BUT SAID IT WOULD NOT CONSIDER THESE TO BE LIMITED AND WOULD FEEL FREE TO SUBMIT NEW STRUCTURAL FORMULAS TO THE COMMITTEE AS THE NEED AROSE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: SUPPLY ACCEPTED STANDARD TEXTILE DEFINITIONS FOR FIBER MODULUS AND FIBER TENACITY AS REQUESTED BY UK.

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